

GROUNDED

STAR-LORD



#2
ZDARSKY
ANKA
WILSON

MARVEL

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PETER QUILL IS THE HALF-ALIEN, HALF-HUMAN SON OF THE FORMER KING OF SPARTAX AND MEREDITH QUILL OF EARTH. ARMED WITH HIS ELEMENT GUNS AND ALIEN HELMET, QUILL HAS SPENT MUCH OF HIS LIFE ROAMING THE COSMOS IN SEARCH OF ADVENTURE AS A PART-TIME GUARDIAN OF THE GALAXY AND A FULL-TIME GUNSLINGER.



AFTER A MOMENTOUS BATTLE ON EARTH, THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY LOST THEIR SHIP, HAD A FIGHT, AND PARTED WAYS. NOW, PETER IS ALONE IN NEW YORK CITY, RELYING ON THE INDULGENCE OF ALPHA FLIGHT FOR ROOM AND BOARD, AND THE SYMPATHY OF OTHERS FOR COMPANIONSHIP. OLD MAN LOGAN INVITED STAR-LORD OUT TO BOND OVER BEING STUCK IN A WORLD THAT IS, AND YET IS NOT, THEIR OWN, AND ALSO BEER, BUT THEY GOT JUMPED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED GANG! THOUGH THEY DEFEATED THE GOONS AND PROTECTED THE INNOCENT, PETER WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR AN AWFUL LOT OF PROPERTY DAMAGE AND GOT PICKED UP BY NEW YORK'S FINEST...

WRITER

CHIP ZDARSKY

ARTIST

KRIS ANKA

COLORIST

MATTHEW WILSON

LETTERER

VC'S CORY PETIT

COVER
ARTIST

KRIS ANKA

VARIANT
COVER

MARGUERITE SAUVAGE

TITLE
PAGE
DESIGN

ANTHONY GAMBINO

ASSISTANT
EDITOR

KATHLEEN WISNESKI

EDITORS

JORDAN D. WHITE & DARREN SHAN

EDITOR
IN CHIEF

AXEL ALONSO

CHIEF
CREATIVE
OFFICER

JOE QUESADA

PUBLISHER

DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER

ALAN FINE

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DAILY BUGLE

Shining A Light On Menaces Since 1898

EARTH-LORD

Super hero "STAR-LORD" arrested in vigilante crackdown

BY KAT FARRE

The message from NYPD was loud and Wednesday morning: Earth-Lord is enough.

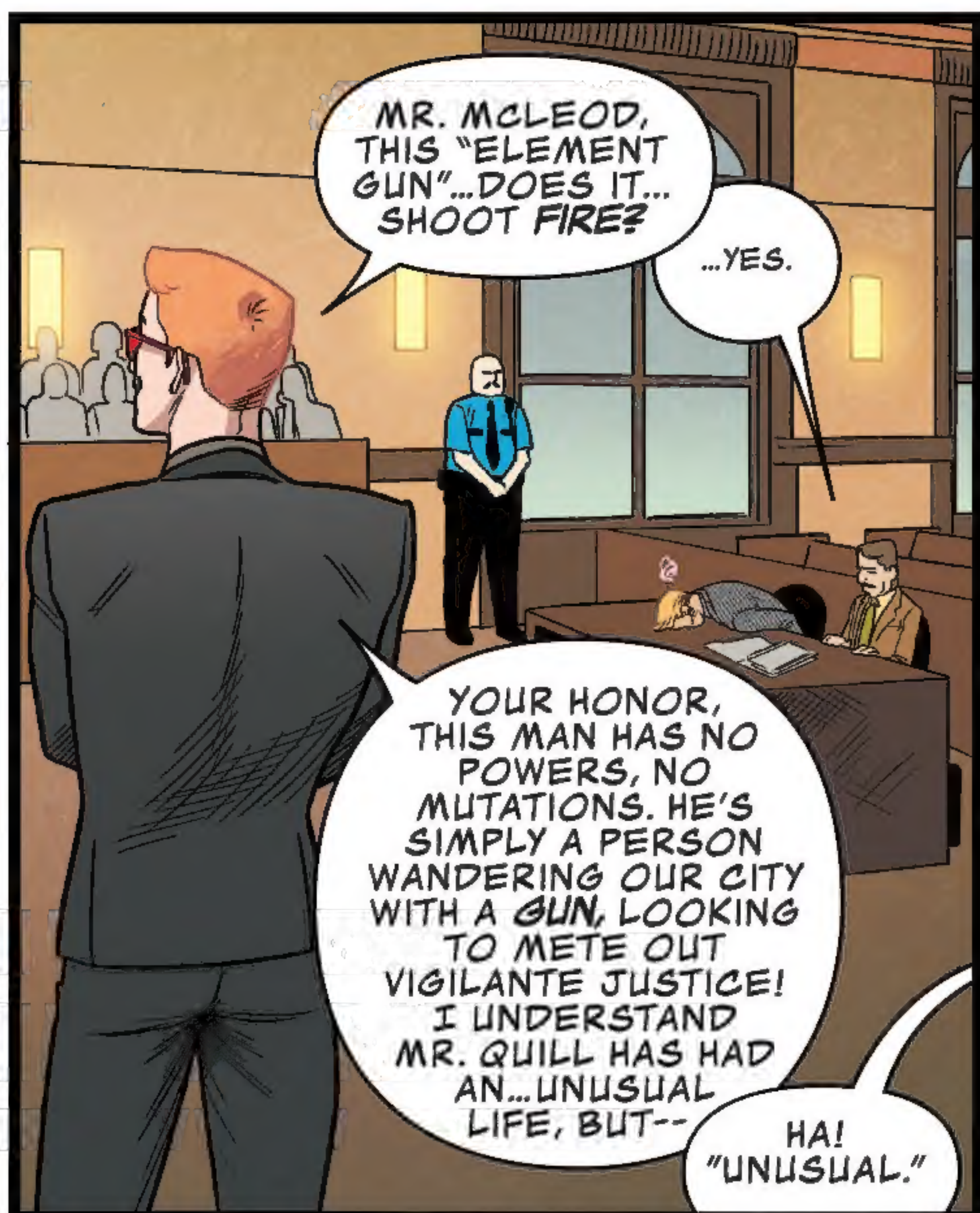
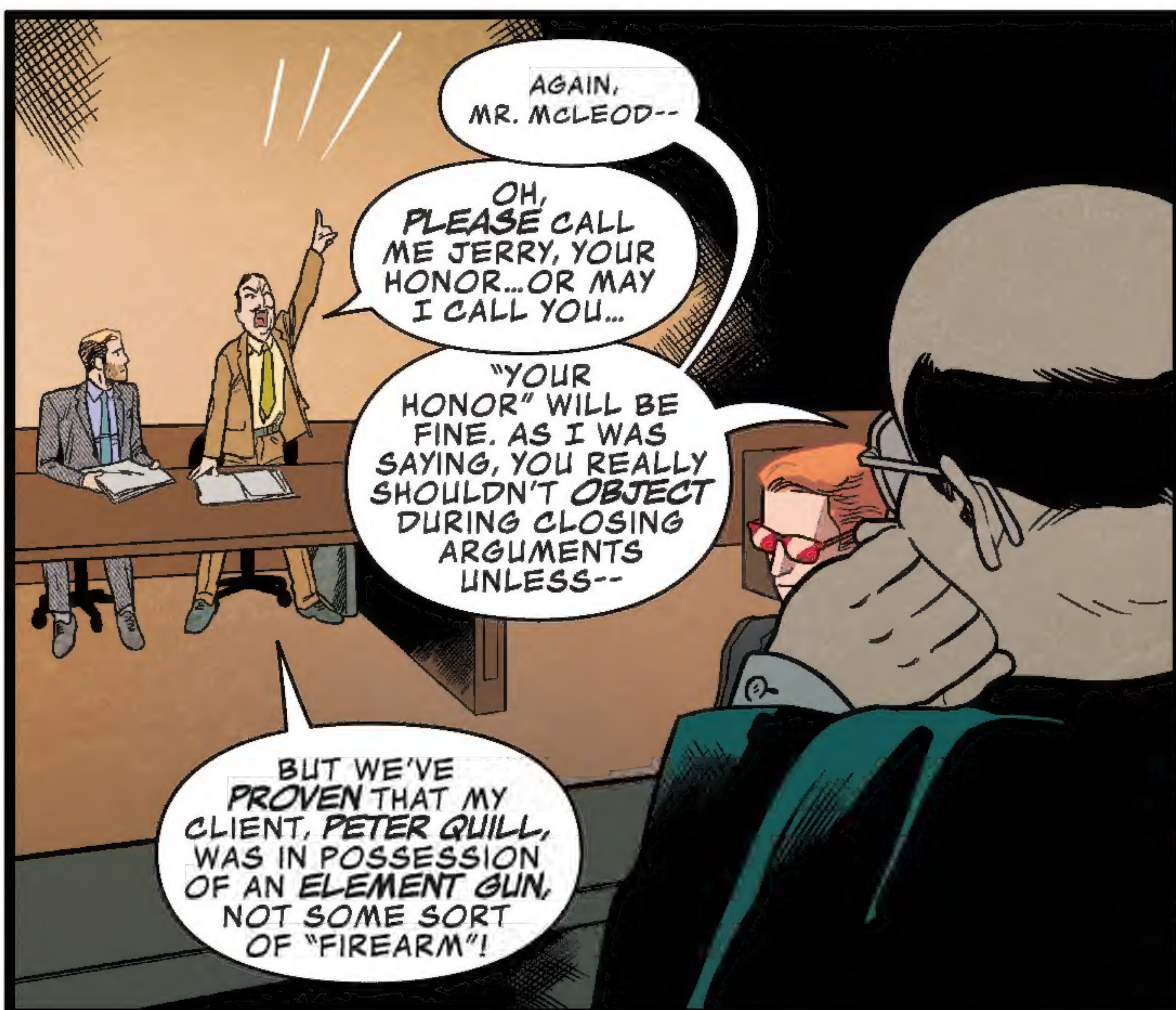
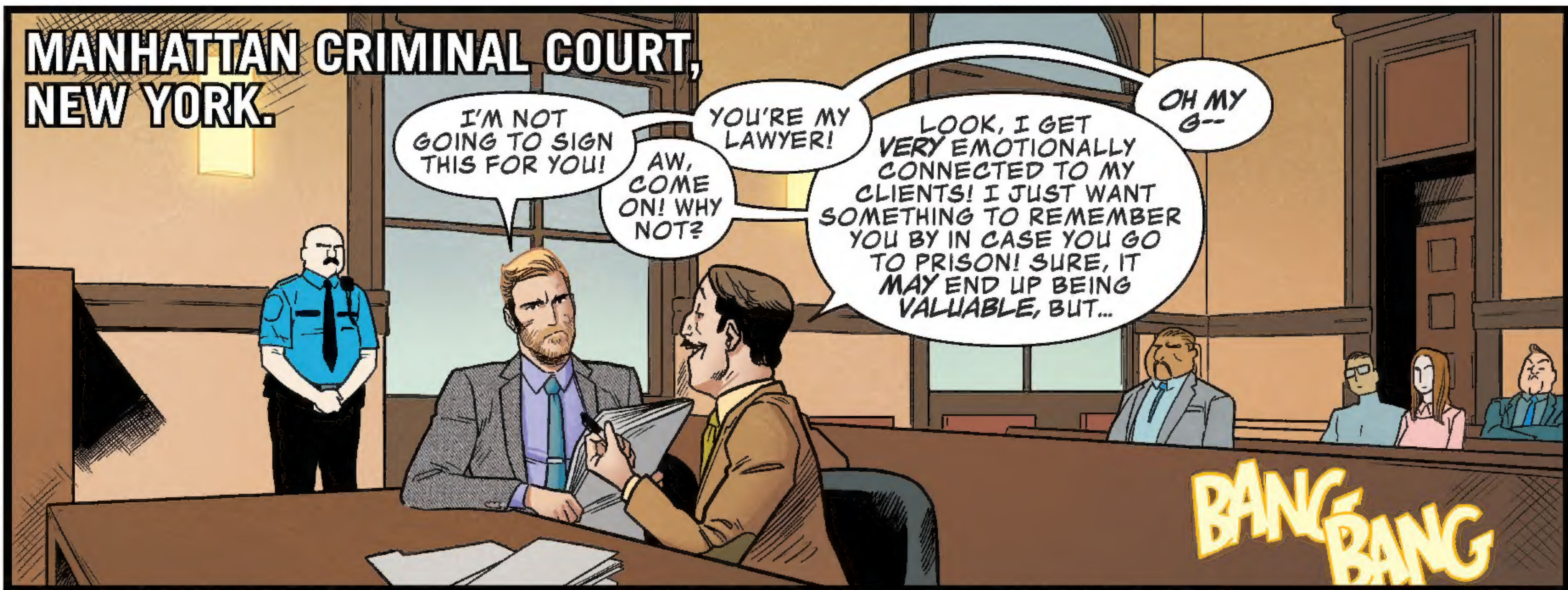
At approximately 1:30 p.m., police were called in for a disturbance in the Meatpacking District at the notorious bar Crossroads, known for violent gang interactions. A fight had broken out between two rival gangs: The Bratva Boys — a Russian group — and a new, unnamed gang from Midtown. Gunfire had been exchanged and when police arrived, two members were dead and several others seriously injured from stabbings. Four suspects were arrested on sight, including a man named Matt Murdock, who goes by the name "Star-Lord." At the scene, a man in a blue suit was seen brandishing a gun, seemingly a possession of the man in handcuffs. The system has become dependent on super-powered heroes, unfortunately, but it doesn't mean any person is allowed to roam the streets with weapons under the guise of "super-heroics," said Captain Carmen Albano of the 100th Precinct.

THIS IS EMBARRASSING!

Assistant District Attorney Matt Murdock agreed with Captain Albano's assessment, stating that it's up to a judge to make the call on a person being justified in breaking the law. "New York City is grateful to have super heroes on hand to protect citizens from rapidly increasing instances of super-powered criminals, which average cops may not be able to handle," said Murdock.

"But the law is the law, and these self-proclaimed super heroes need to work the system."

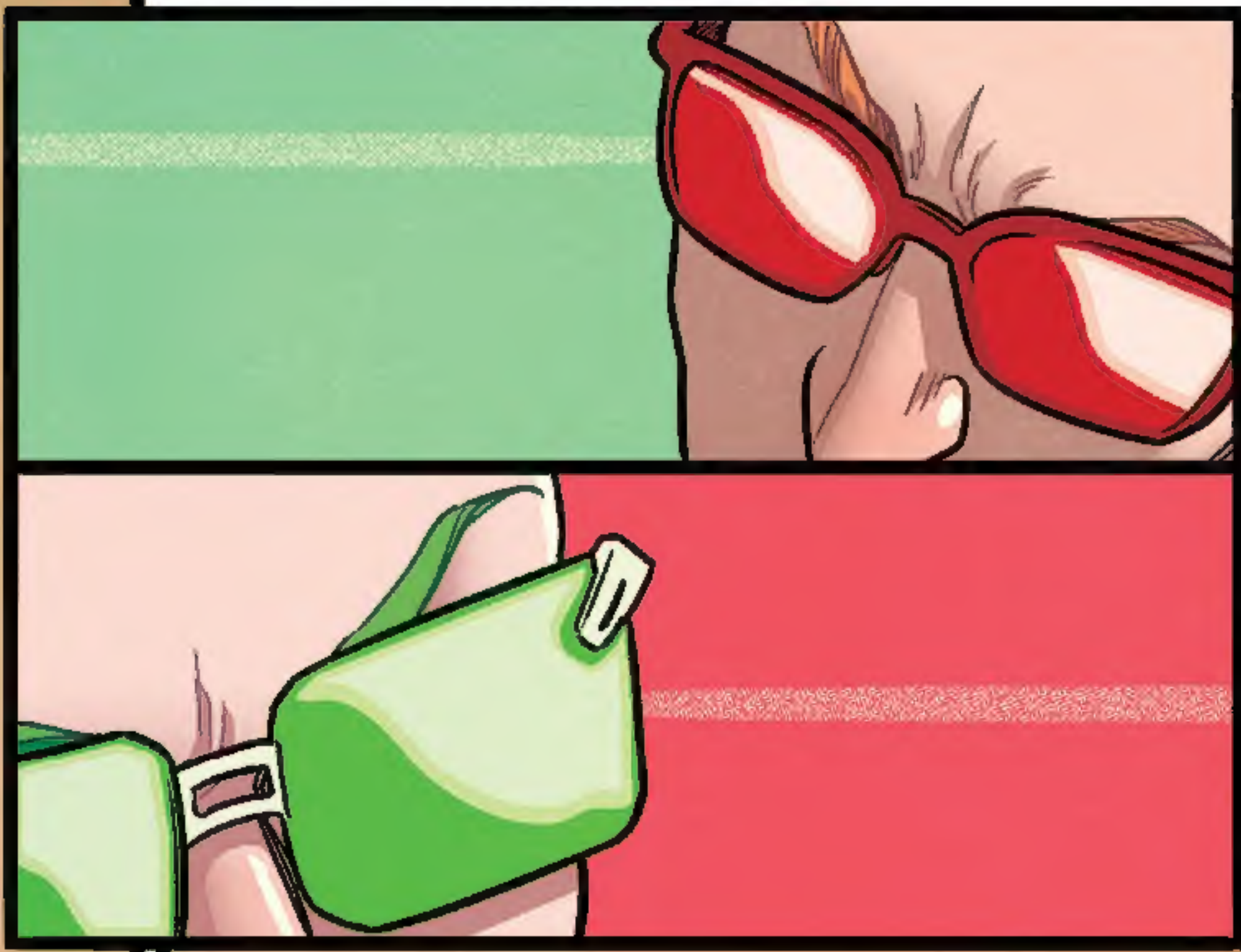
R QUILL (R) BEING ARRESTED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED





PETER QUILL'S FATHER IS AN ALIEN. HIS MOTHER, A HUMAN, WAS MURDERED BY ALIENS. HE'S SPENT ALMOST HALF HIS LIFE IN SPACE!

YES, THERE ARE VIGILANTES WE TURN A BLIND EYE TO. FOR INSTANCE, DAREDEVIL, WHO HAS SAVED LIVES...



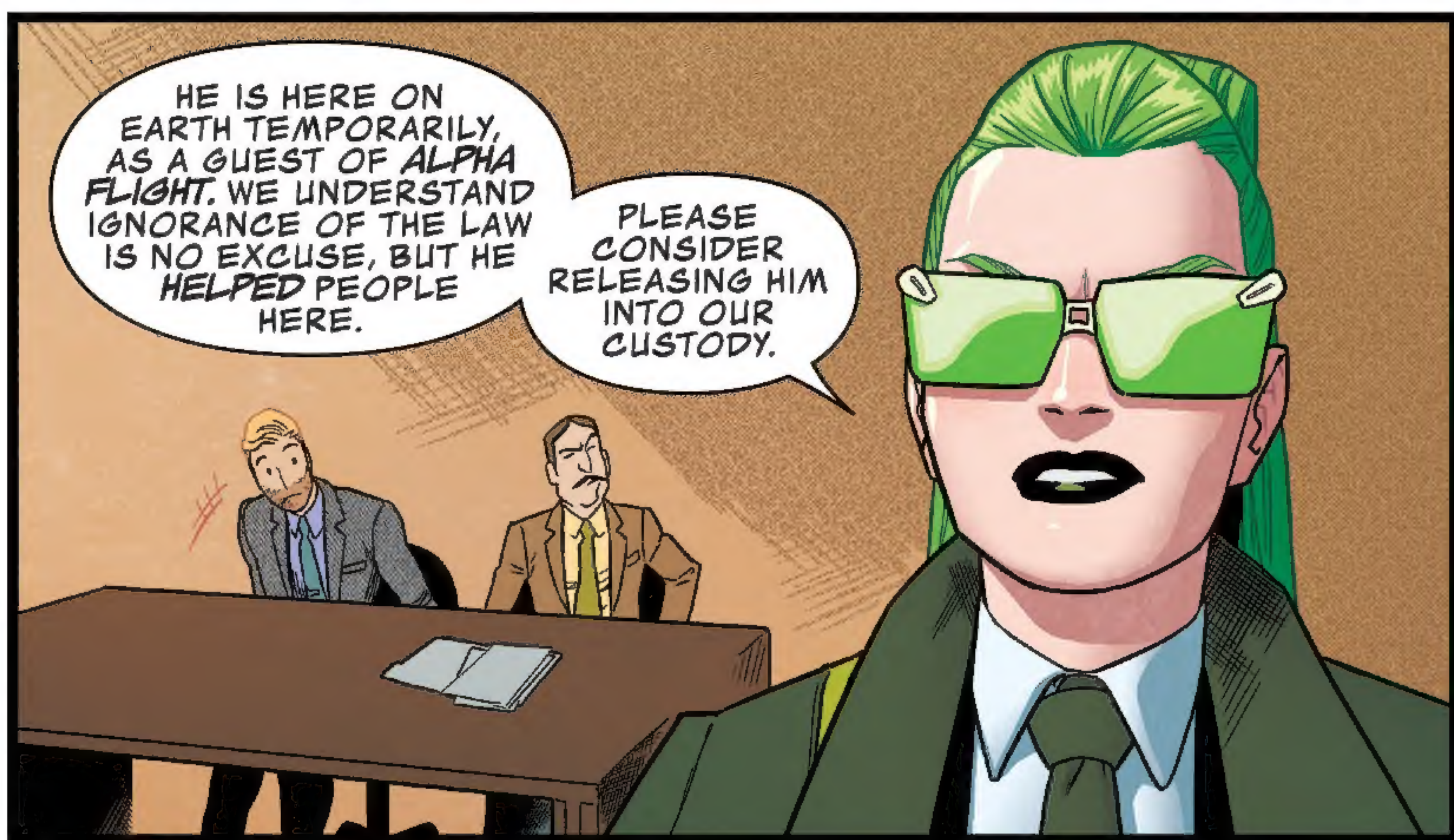
I'M SORRY, MS....

BRAND. LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ABIGAIL BRAND OF THE ALPHA FLIGHT SPACE INITIATIVE.

MR. QUILL HAS SAVED THE UNIVERSE, AS THE LEADER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY.

YES, WELL, MS. BRAND. IF I AM TO BELIEVE YOU AND YOUR STORY RIPPED FROM THE PAGES OF MY GRANDSON'S PICTURE BOOKS...

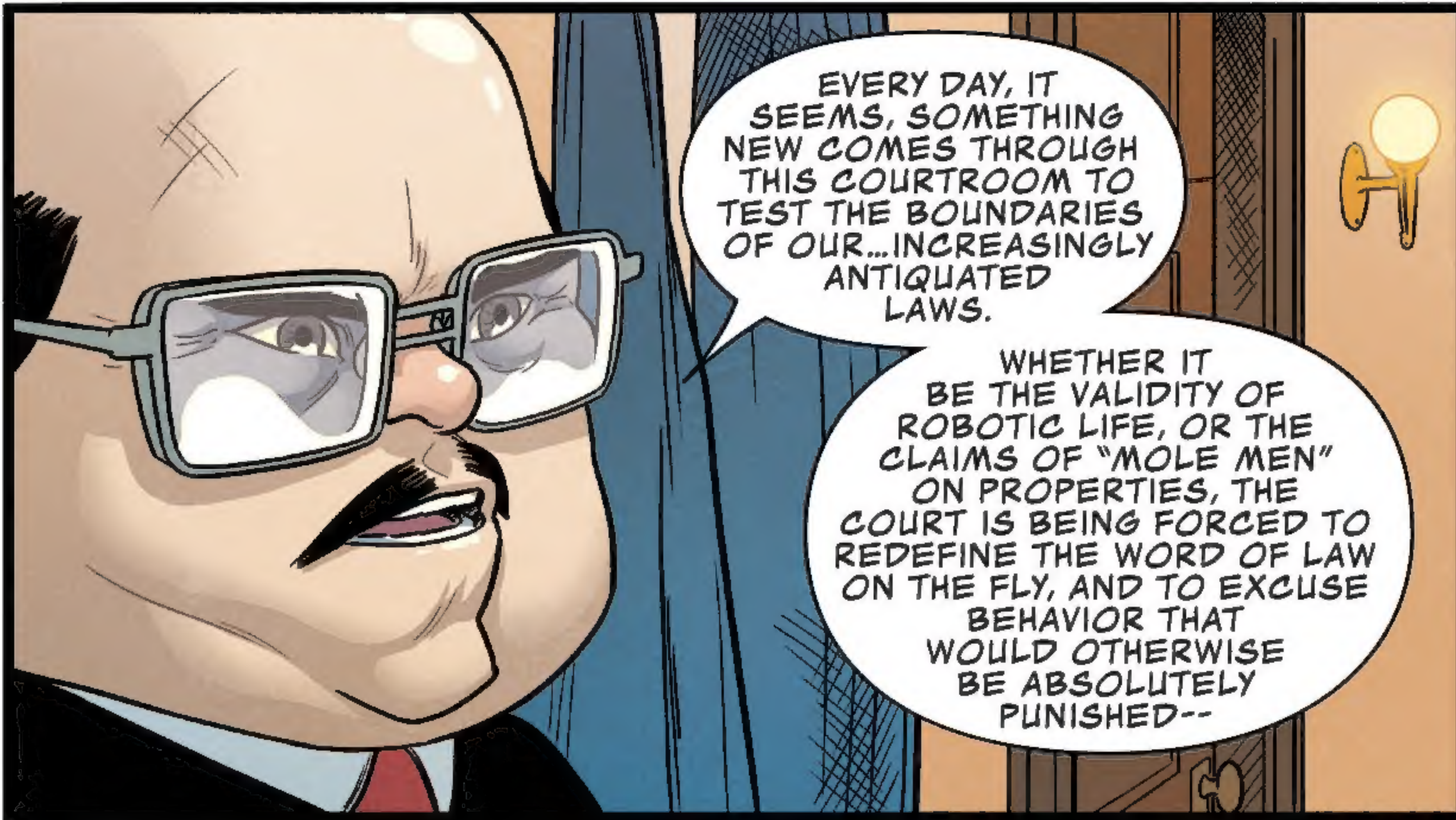
...MR. QUILL HERE STILL BROKE THE LAW, STILL DOESN'T HAVE A SHRED OF PROPER IDENTIFICATION...



HE IS HERE ON EARTH TEMPORARILY, AS A GUEST OF ALPHA FLIGHT. WE UNDERSTAND IGNORANCE OF THE LAW IS NO EXCUSE, BUT HE HELPED PEOPLE HERE.

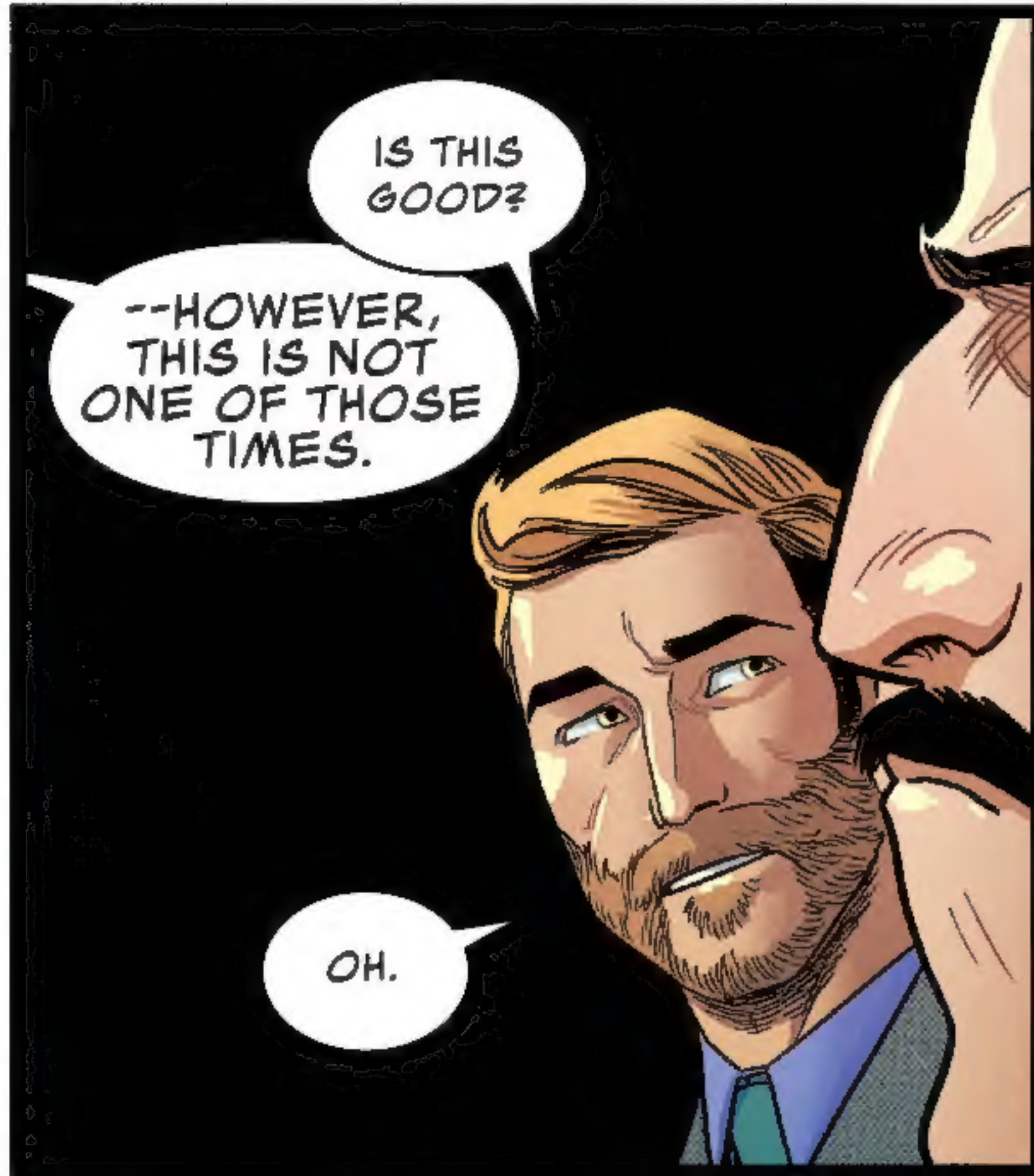
PLEASE CONSIDER RELEASING HIM INTO OUR CUSTODY.





EVERY DAY, IT SEEMS, SOMETHING NEW COMES THROUGH THIS COURTROOM TO TEST THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR...INCREASINGLY ANTIQUATED LAWS.

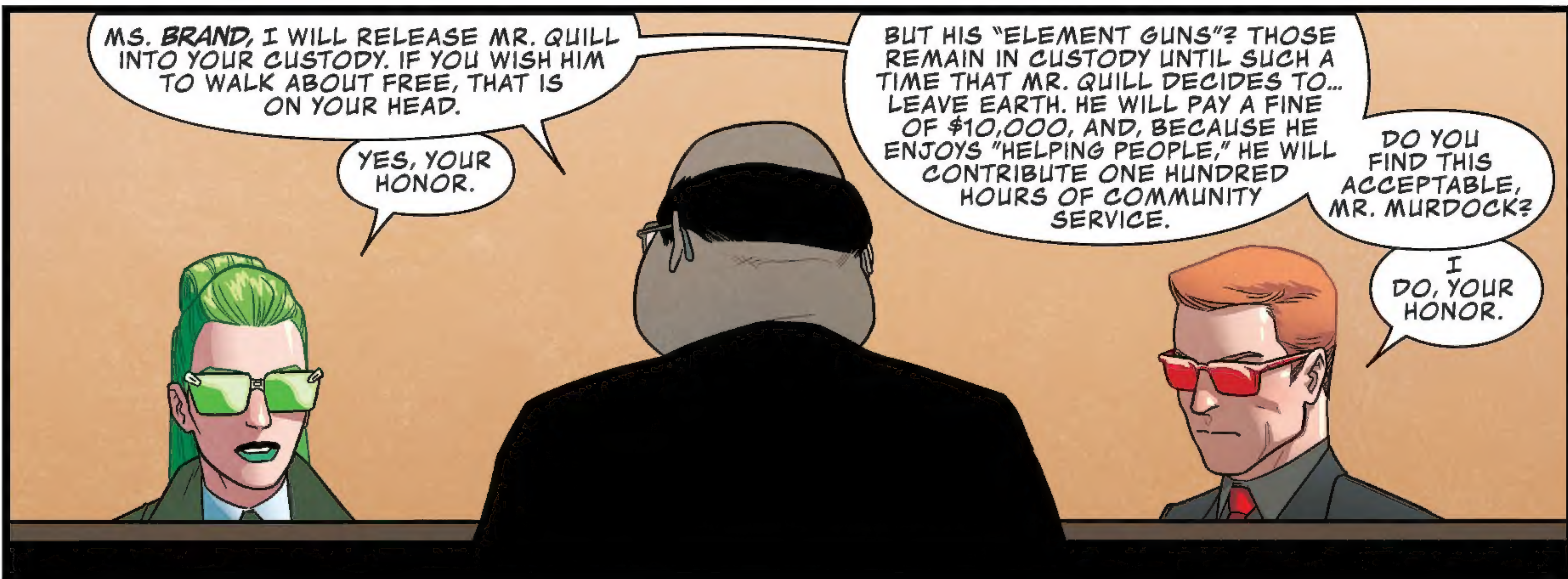
WHETHER IT BE THE VALIDITY OF ROBOTIC LIFE, OR THE CLAIMS OF "MOLE MEN" ON PROPERTIES, THE COURT IS BEING FORCED TO REDEFINE THE WORD OF LAW ON THE FLY, AND TO EXCUSE BEHAVIOR THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE ABSOLUTELY PUNISHED--



IS THIS GOOD?

--HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT ONE OF THOSE TIMES.

OH.



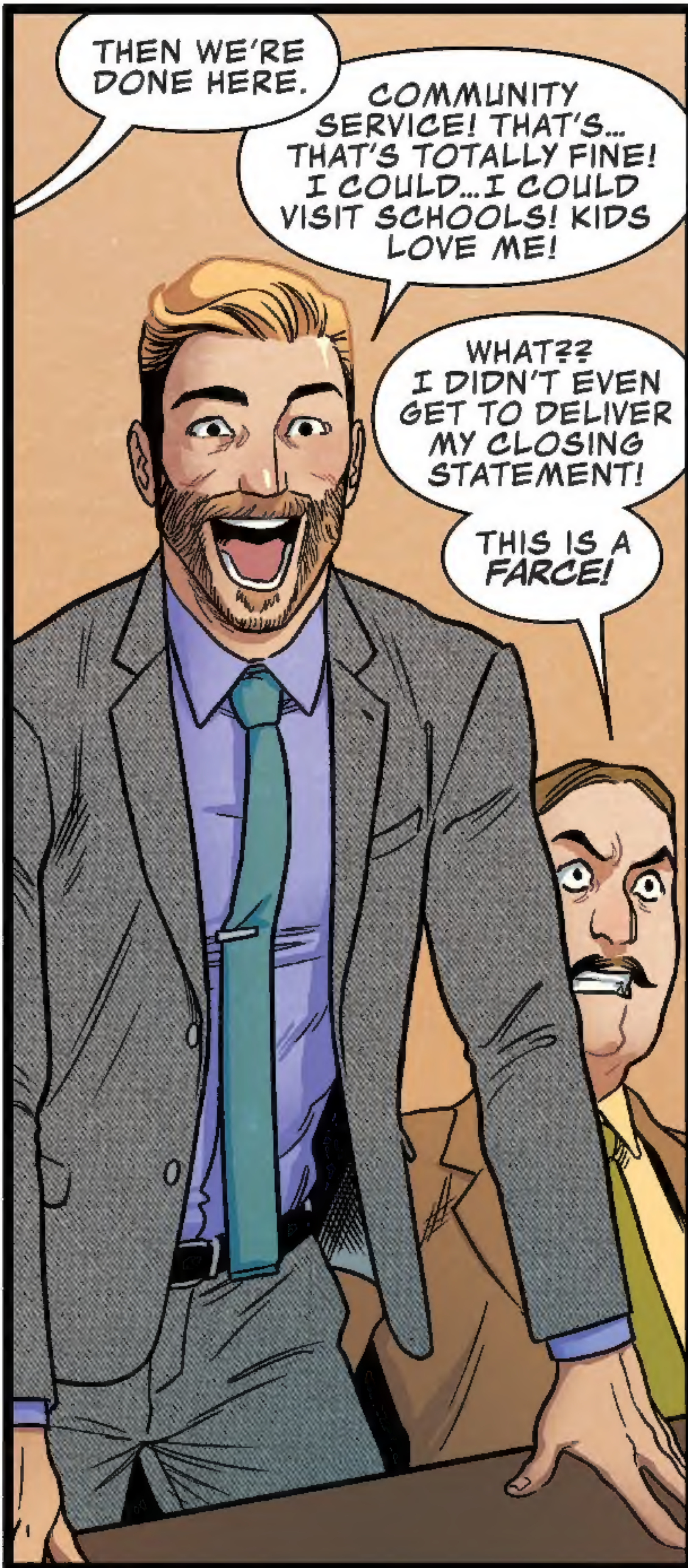
MS. BRAND, I WILL RELEASE MR. QUILL INTO YOUR CUSTODY. IF YOU WISH HIM TO WALK ABOUT FREE, THAT IS ON YOUR HEAD.

YES, YOUR HONOR.

BUT HIS "ELEMENT GUNS"? THOSE REMAIN IN CUSTODY UNTIL SUCH A TIME THAT MR. QUILL DECIDES TO... LEAVE EARTH. HE WILL PAY A FINE OF \$10,000, AND, BECAUSE HE ENJOYS "HELPING PEOPLE," HE WILL CONTRIBUTE ONE HUNDRED HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE.

DO YOU FIND THIS ACCEPTABLE, MR. MURDOCK?

I DO, YOUR HONOR.



THEN WE'RE DONE HERE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE! THAT'S... THAT'S TOTALLY FINE! I COULD...I COULD VISIT SCHOOLS! KIDS LOVE ME!

WHAT?? I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO DELIVER MY CLOSING STATEMENT!

THIS IS A FARCE!



STAY OUT OF TROUBLE, QUILL.

THAT'S THE LAST TIME I BAIL YOUR BEAUTIFUL BUTT OUT, YOU #\$\$%@.

OH, TOTALLY! I AM THROUGH WITH TROUBLE...BUT I HAVE ONE SMALL TEENSY FAVOR TO ASK?

TURNS OUT MY JACKET WAS LIFTED AFTER THE BAR FIGHT, AND IF I'M GOING TO BE ENTERTAINING KIDS AS A "SUPER HERO"...



...COULD ALPHA FLIGHT WHIP ME UP SOMETHING FUN?

TWO WEEKS
LATER.

STAR-LORD...
UH...PETER
QUILL.

I'M HERE
TO SEE EDMUND
ALLEN? FOR THE
PROGRAM?
THE...

WINTERS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY, NEW JERSEY.

...“GOLDEN
FRIENDS”
PROGRAM?

HM. MR. ALLEN
IS IN UNIT 207. TRY
TO NOT BURN THE
BUILDING DOWN,
OR--

OH, I
DON'T HAVE ANY
SUPER-POWERS.

THEN WHY
ARE YOU DRESSED--
YOU KNOW WHAT?
NEVER MIND. ELEVATOR
IS DOWN THE HALL
ON YOUR LEFT.

ONE
HUNDRED
HOURS. EASY-
PEASY,
PETEY.

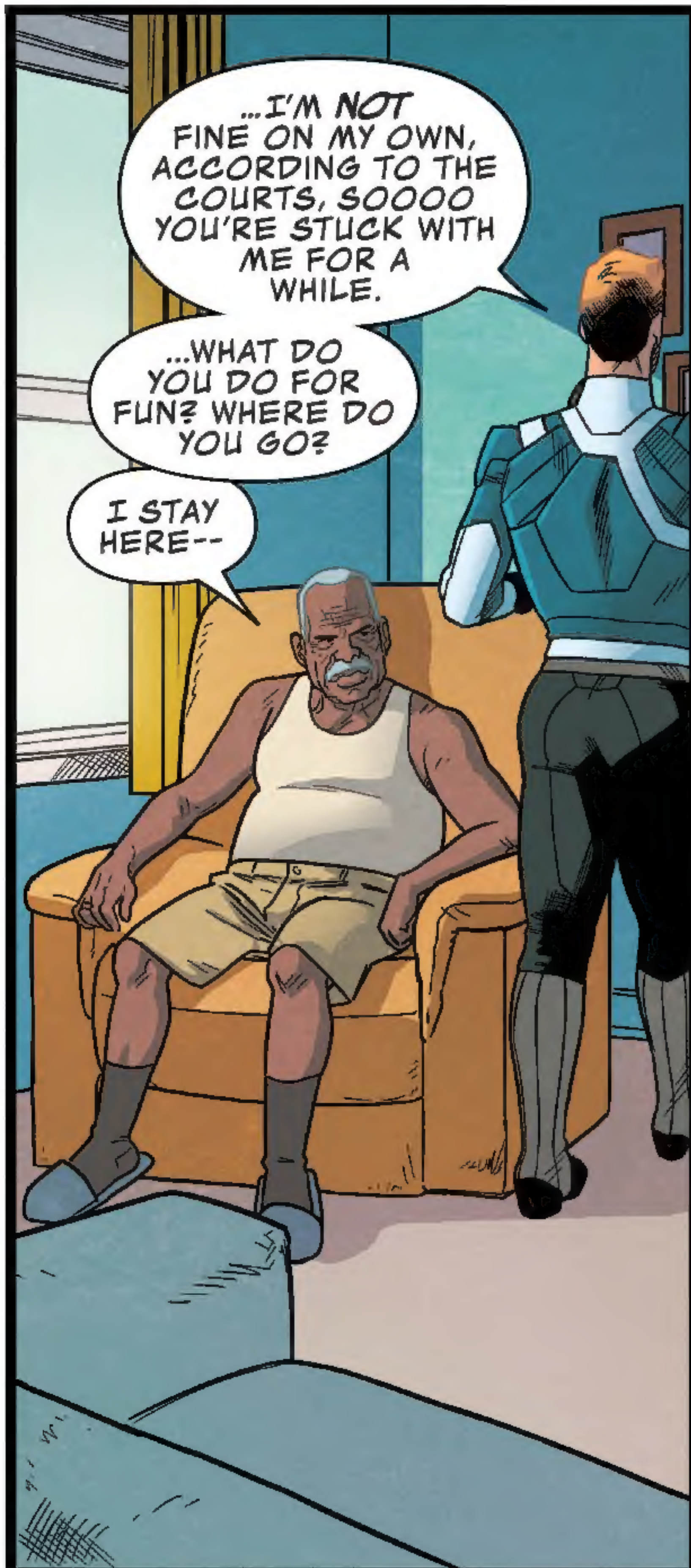
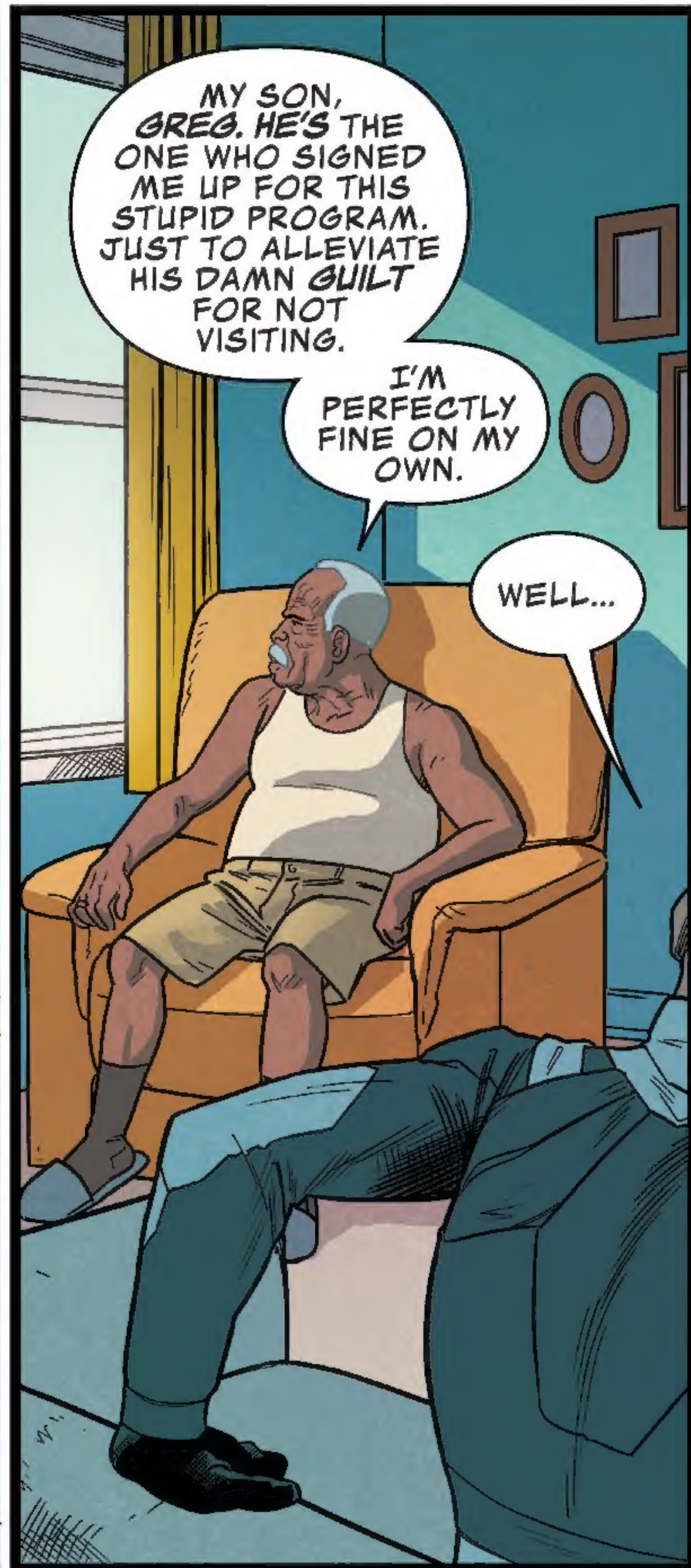
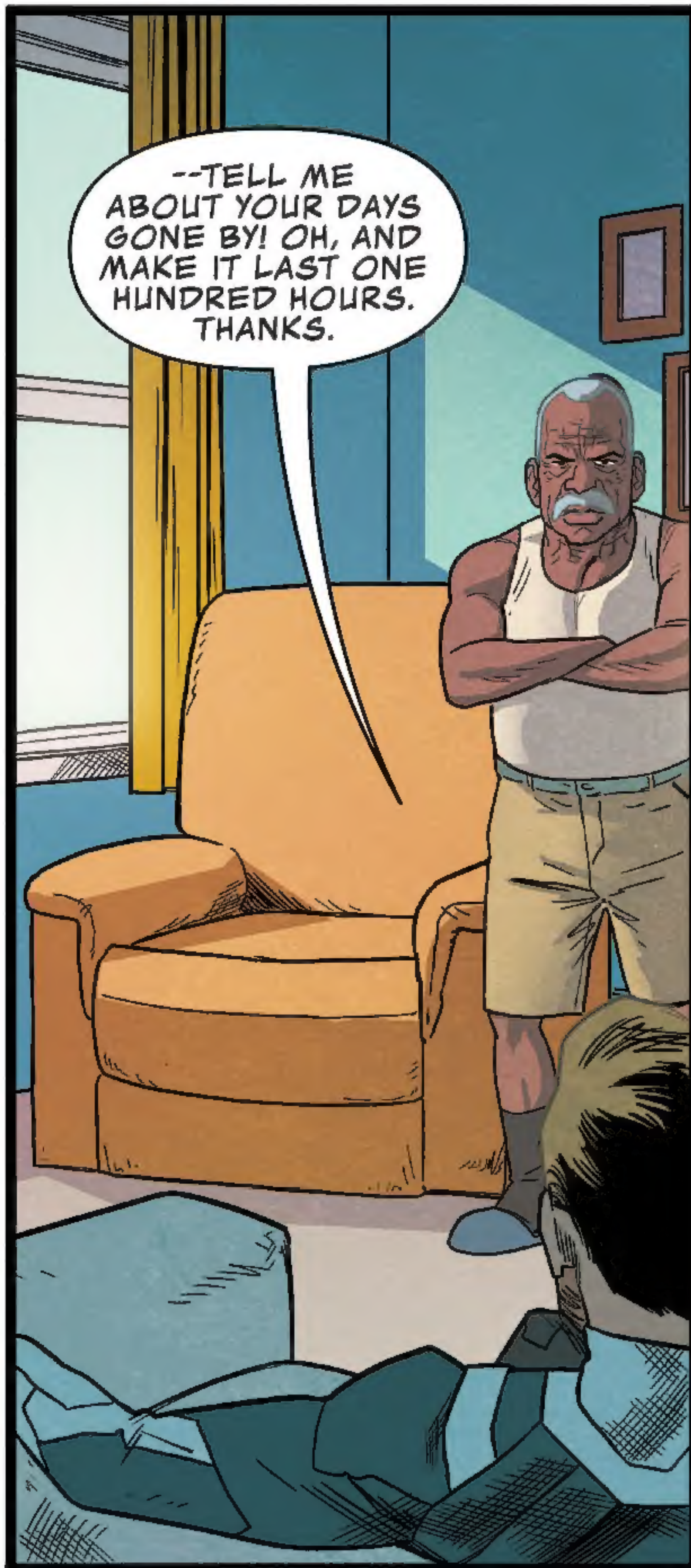
HI! I'M
P--

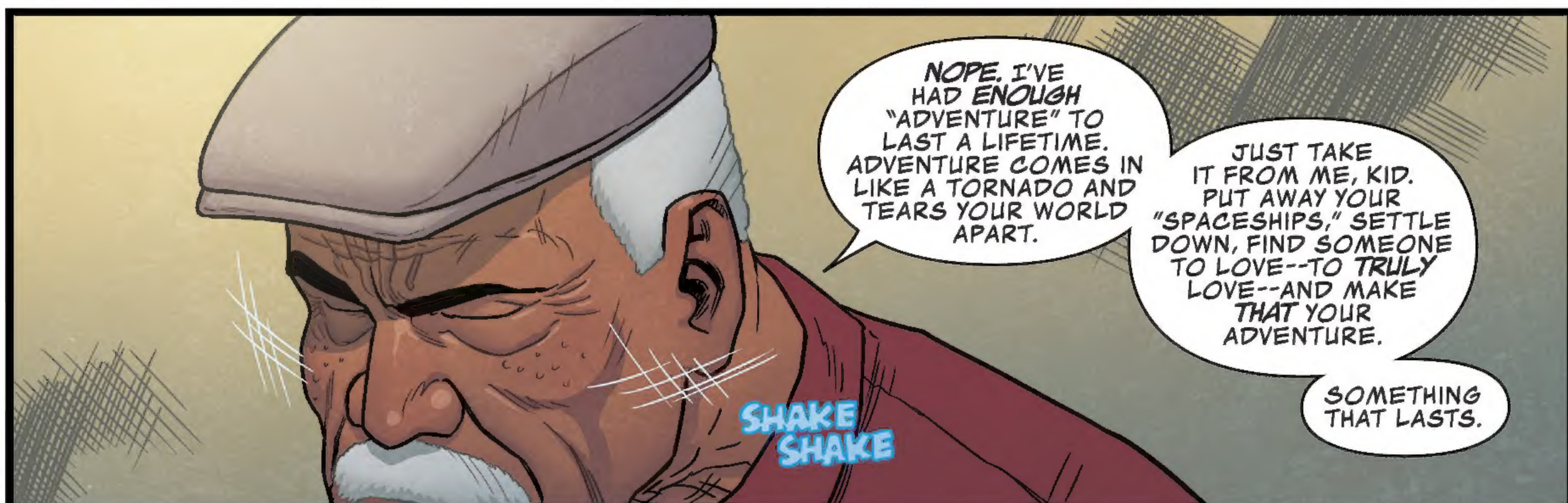
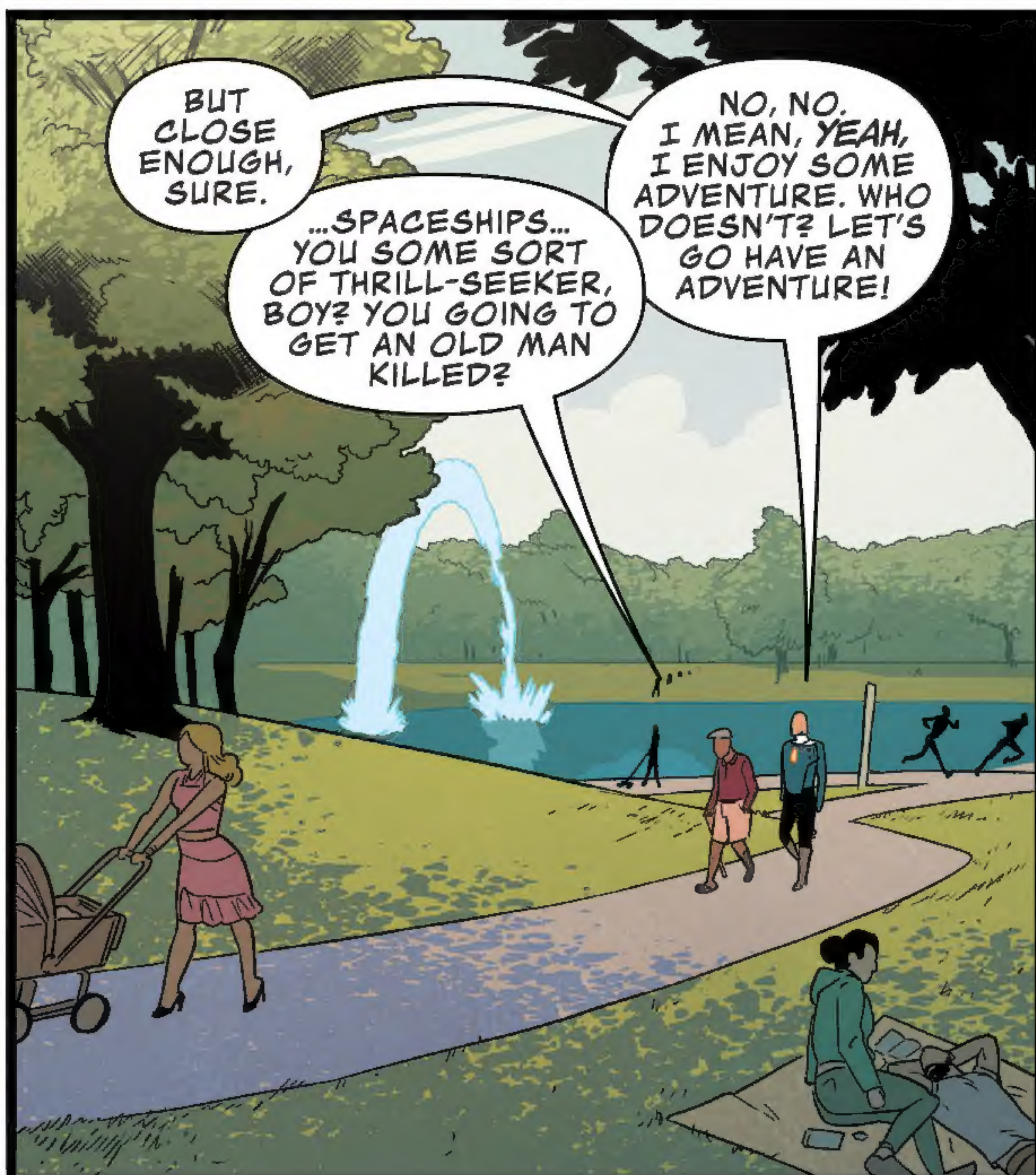
GO
AWAY.

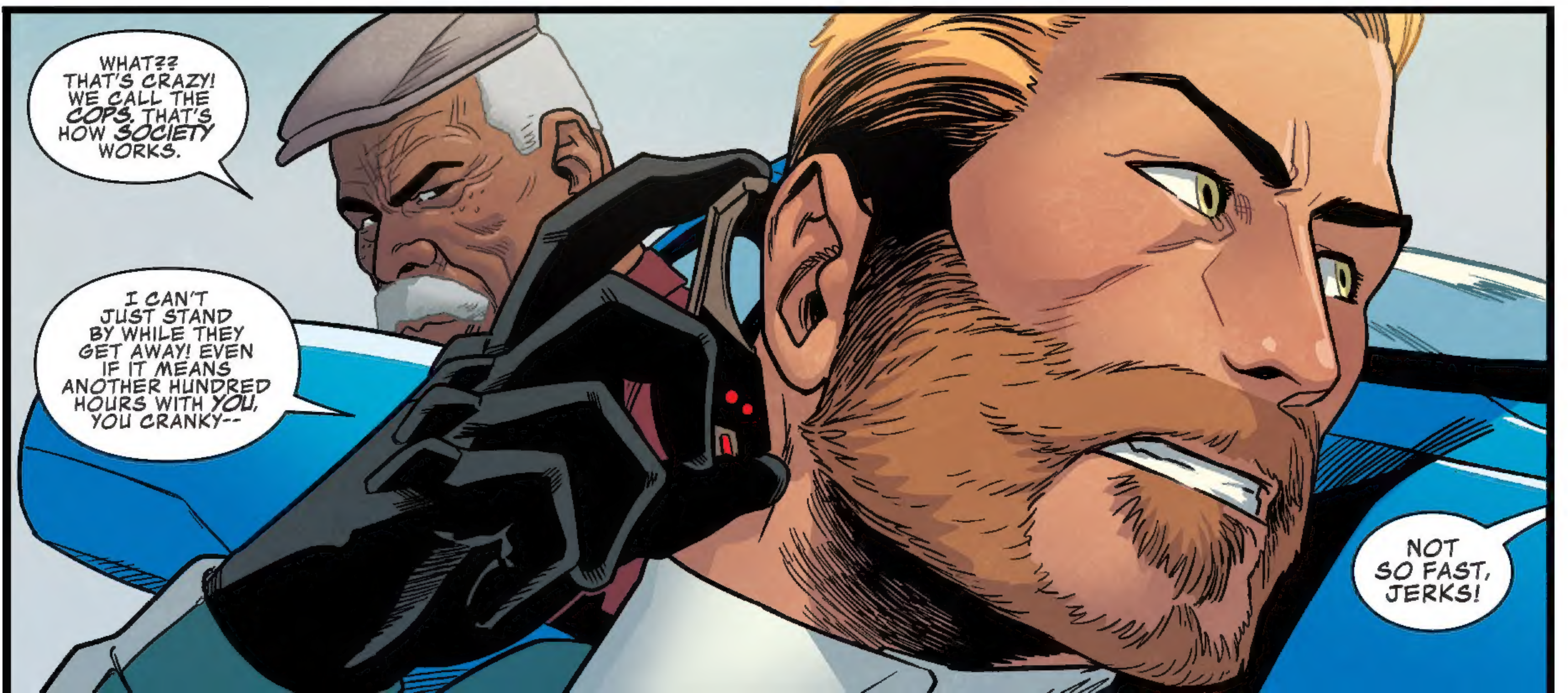
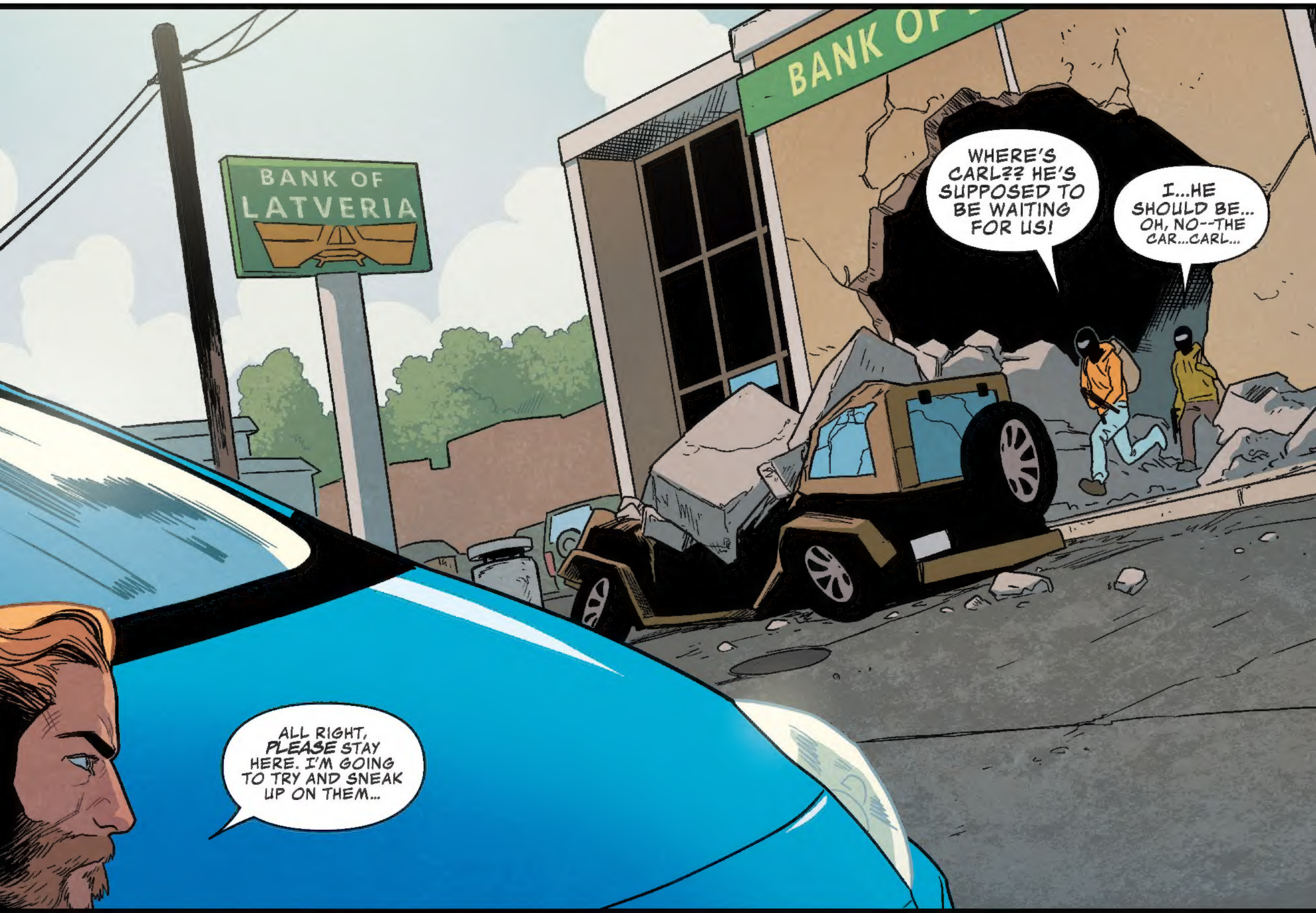
I'M--

DON'T
WANT YOU,
DON'T NEED
YOU.

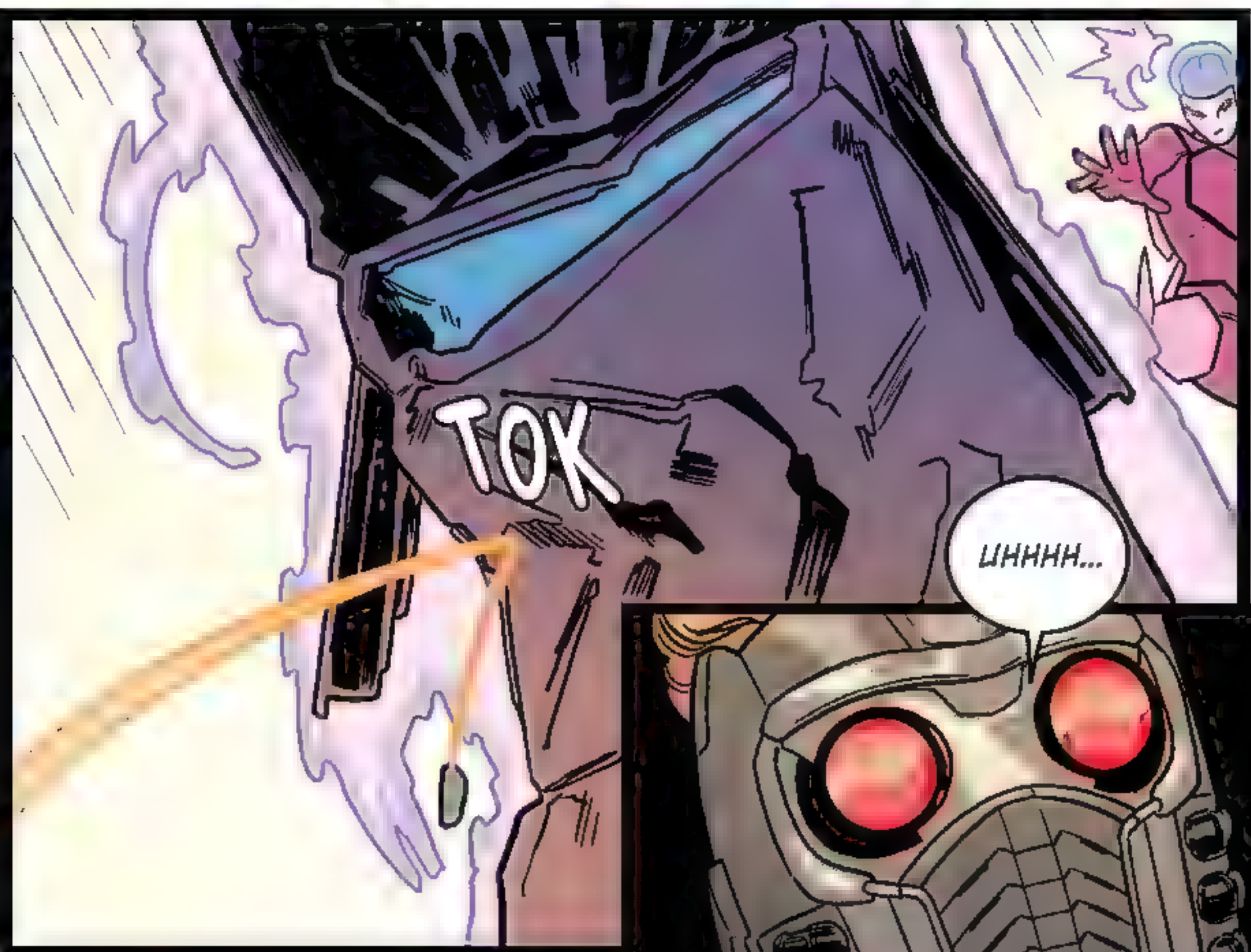
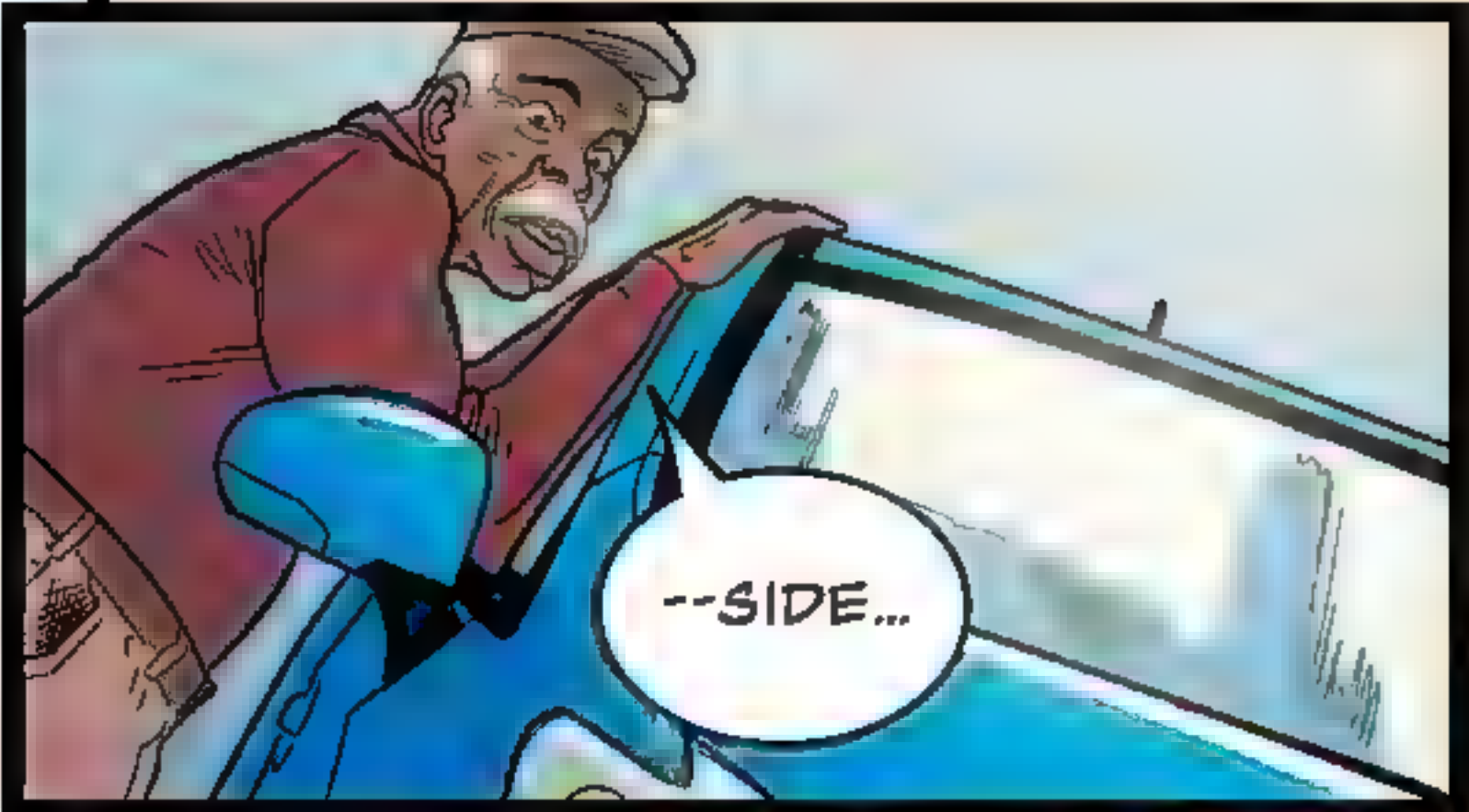
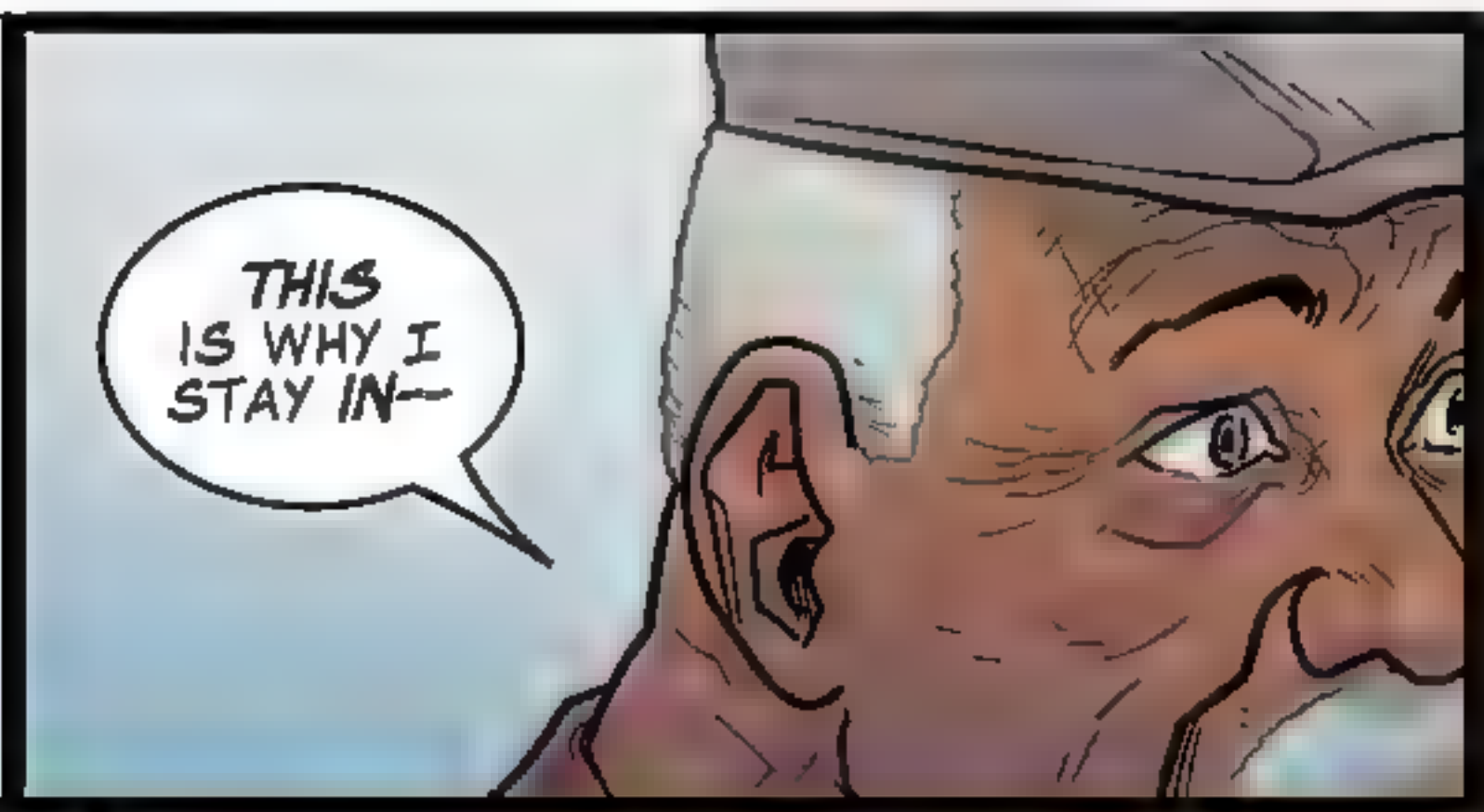
YEAH, WELL,
I NEED YOU,
MR. ALLEN. MY MEAN AND
GREEN “PAROLE OFFICER”
THOUGHT I'D DO THE LEAST
AMOUNT OF DAMAGE LISTENING
TO OLD PEOPLE TALK
ABOUT DAYS GONE
BY, SOOO--













PLAN B!
PLAN B!

LEAVE ME
ALONE! I JUST
WANTED SOME
MONEY!

KRNCH



THAT'S...
THAT'S NOT HOW
MONEY WORKS...
YOU DON'T
JUST...

...GRAB
MONEY...



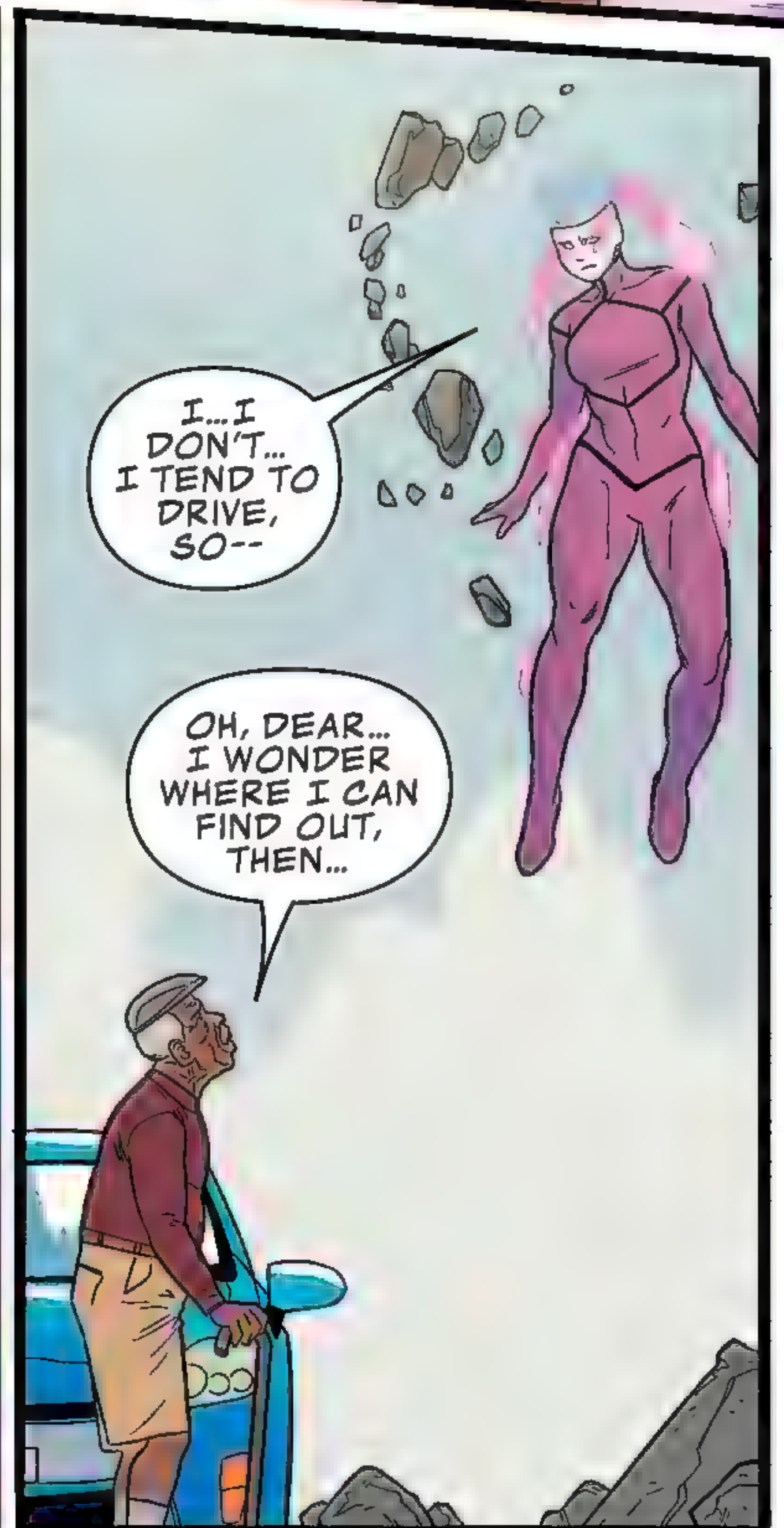
TO BE
FAIR, I NEVER
LAID A FINGER
ON THE
MONEY!



NOT WHEN
I HAVE *OTHER*
FINGERS TO DO
MY *BIDDING*!
HA HA!

I CAN'T--
CAN'T CONTROL
MY HAND!!

OH,
MAN...





TRY ONLINE!

NGH!!



SORRY, I JUST GOT INTO THE INTERNET. GREAT STUFF. YOU CAN FIND ANYTHING!

ARE YOU...YOU OKAY?



ME?? HOW ABOUT YOU?? THAT WAS AMAZING! YOU TOTALLY SAVED US!

I...WELL, WHAT ELSE WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?



I'VE GOT AN IDEA!!

RUN, MAYBE?? THAT WAS INSANELY DANGEROUS!

WHOA, WHOA! HE'S WITH ME!



WAIT... STAR-LORD?

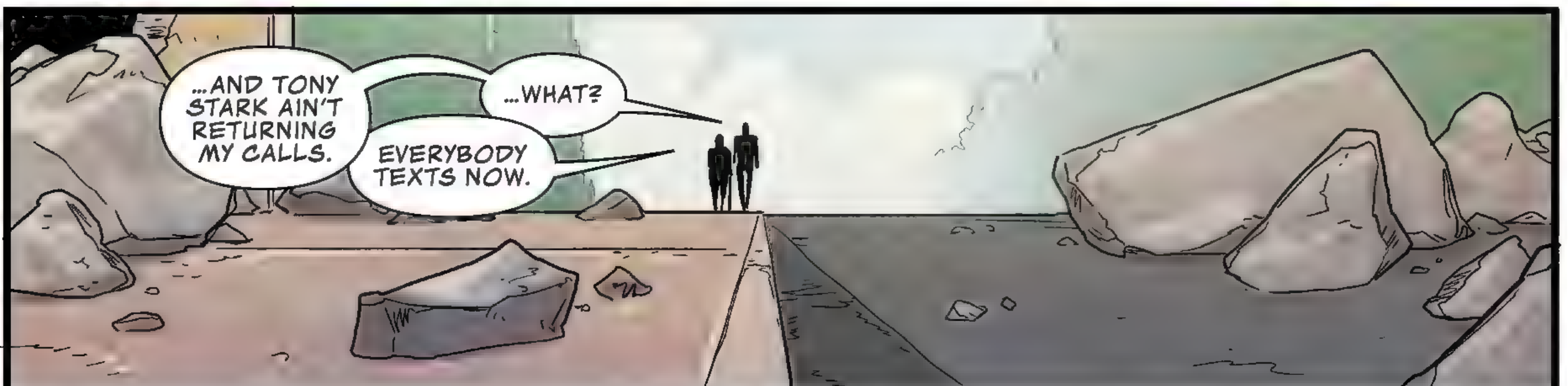
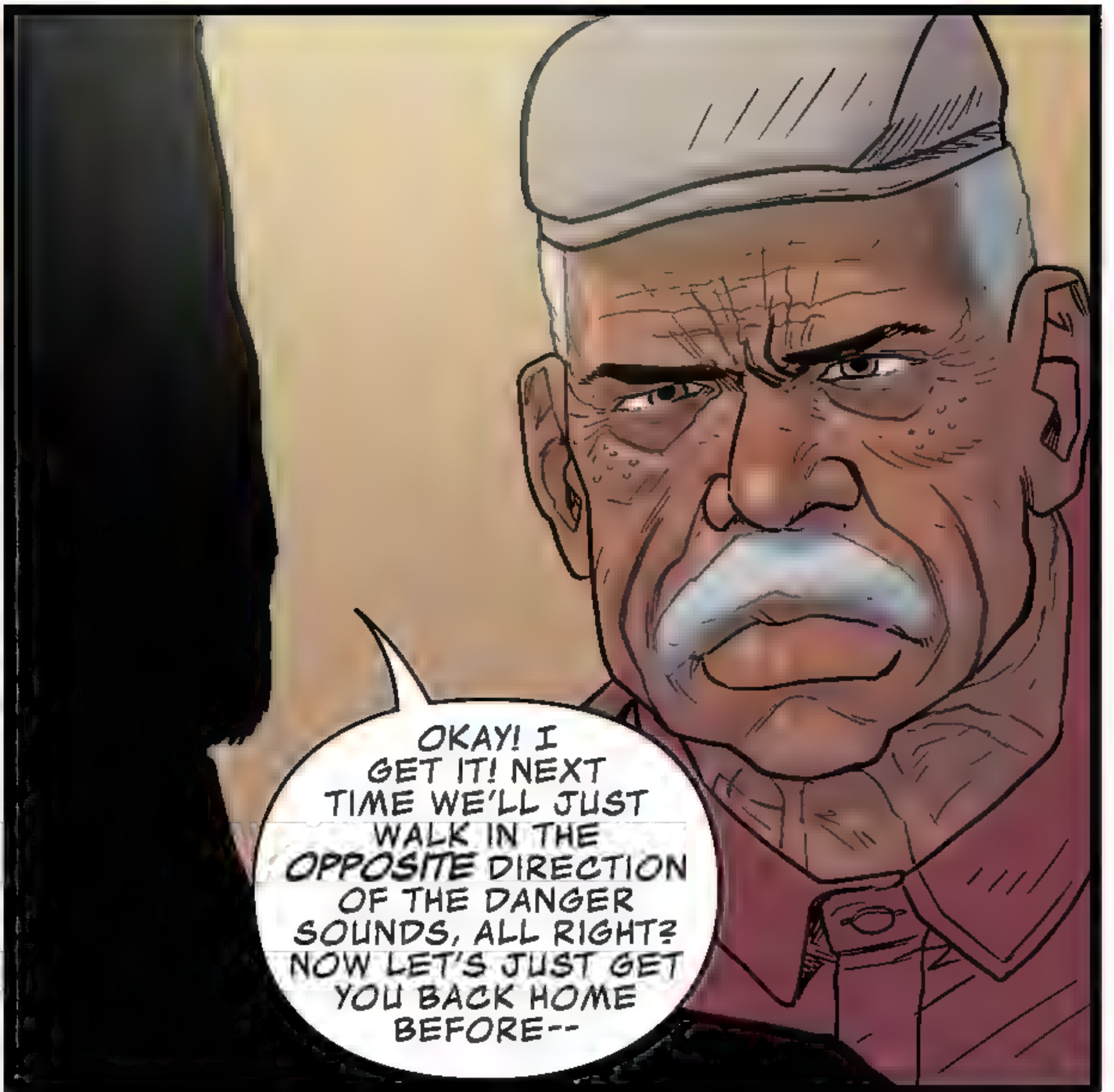
NEW COSTUME, DO YOU LI--

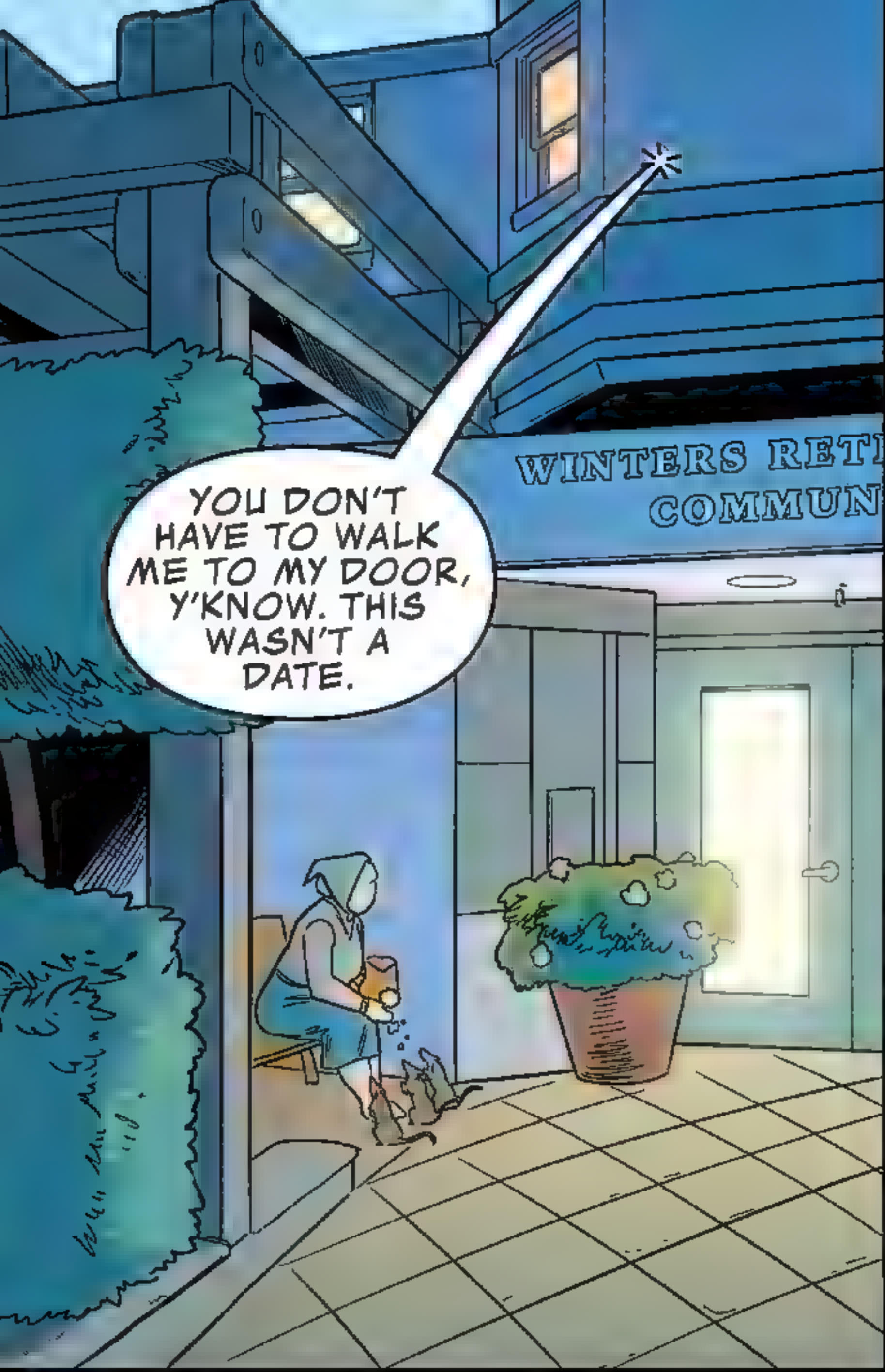
THE GUY WITH NO POWERS NOW HAS A SENIOR CITIZEN SIDEKICK WITH NO POWERS?

HEY! I--

I AM LITERALLY A CHILD WHO CAN'T EVEN VOTE AND EVEN I KNOW THAT'S INCREDIBLY IRRESPONSIBLE!

TAKE HIM HOME TO YOUR... YOUR STAR-CAVE OR WHATEVER! I HAVE TO GO ROUND UP THE GUYS WHO GOT AWAY! BECAUSE OF MY SUPER-POWERS!





YOU DON'T HAVE TO WALK ME TO MY DOOR, Y'KNOW. THIS WASN'T A DATE.

WINTERS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY



LOOK, I ALMOST GOT YOU KILLED ON OUR FIRST DAY OF HANGING OUT. LEAST I CAN DO IS GET YOU SAFELY TO YOUR APARTMENT.



YEAH, WELL, I SUSPECT OUTDOORS OR INDOORS DOESN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH YOU WHEN IT COMES TO DANGEROUS...

...HUH. DOOR'S ALREADY OPEN.



SHH.
STAY BACK. I'LL CHECK IT OUT.



DAMMIT...
NOTHING.



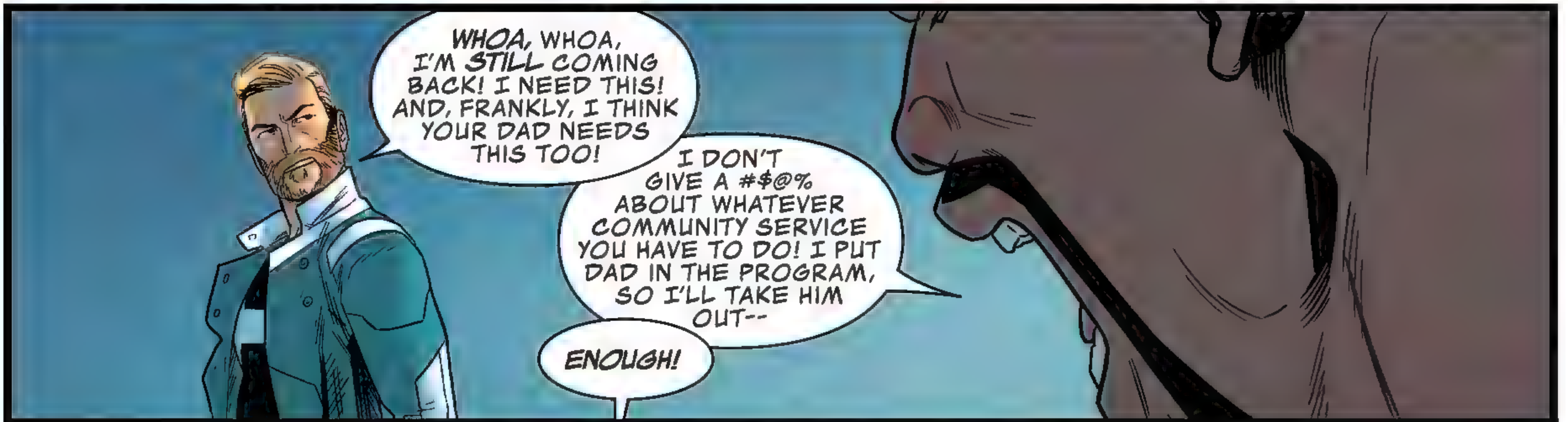
STUPID OLD MAN.
I--





YOU KNOW WHAT? FATHER-SON SQUABBLES ARE KIND OF A TRIGGER FOR ME, SO I'M GOING TO GO--

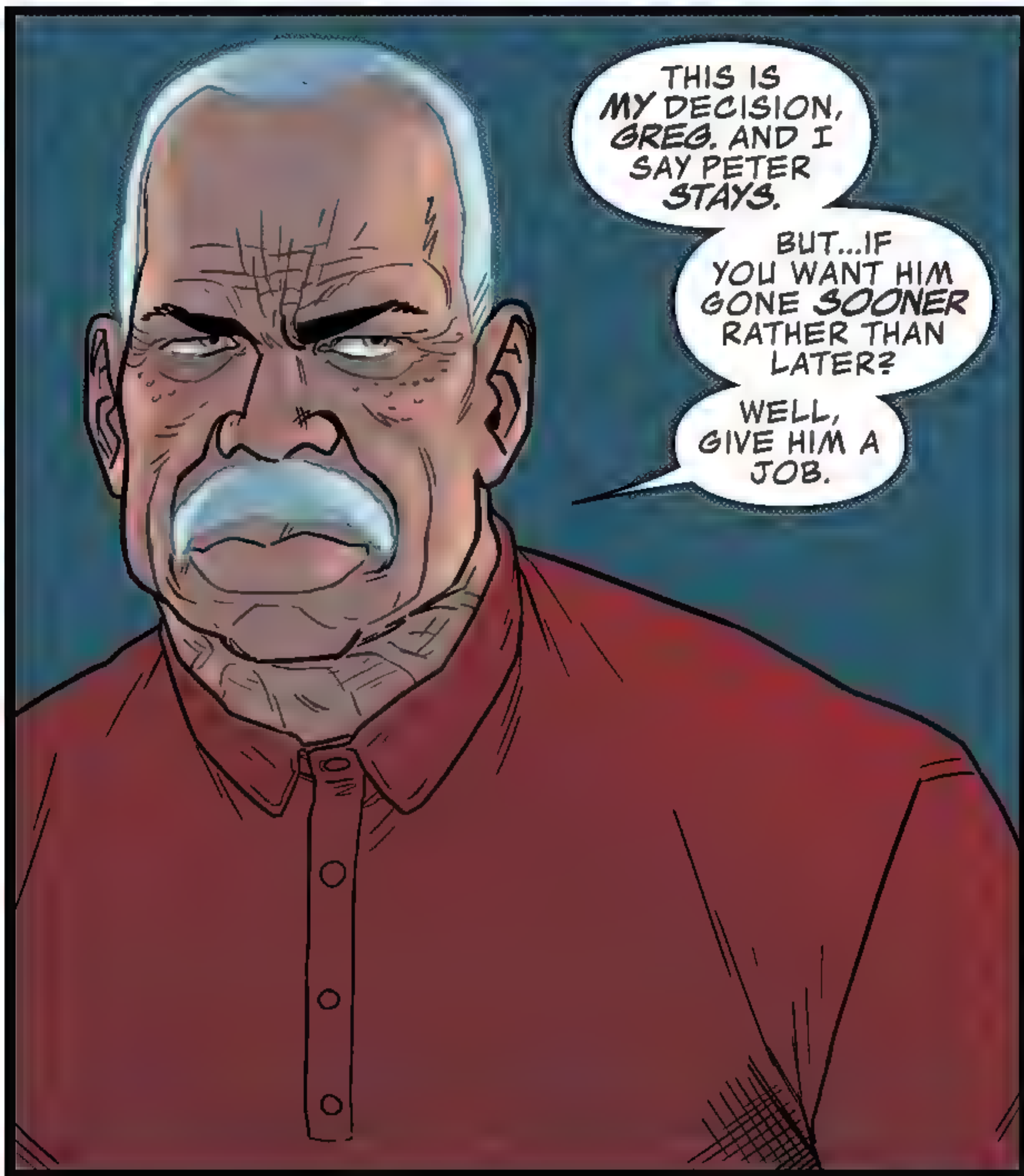
YEAH, GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE I CALL THE COPS FOR ASSAULT! AND GOOD LUCK FINDING ANOTHER SENIOR TO "BEFRIEND"!



WHOA, WHOA, I'M STILL COMING BACK! I NEED THIS! AND, FRANKLY, I THINK YOUR DAD NEEDS THIS TOO!

I DON'T GIVE A ##@% ABOUT WHATEVER COMMUNITY SERVICE YOU HAVE TO DO! I PUT DAD IN THE PROGRAM, SO I'LL TAKE HIM OUT--

ENOUGH!



THIS IS MY DECISION, GREG, AND I SAY PETER STAYS.

BUT...IF YOU WANT HIM GONE SOONER RATHER THAN LATER?

WELL, GIVE HIM A JOB.



WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

SON, WHEN HAVE YOU KNOWN ME TO NOT BE SERIOUS?

PETER NEEDS TO PAY A FINE. THE SOONER HE PAYS IT, THE SOONER HE'S OUT OF HERE. AND YOU KNOW HE'S PERFECT FOR YOUR LITTLE "BAR."

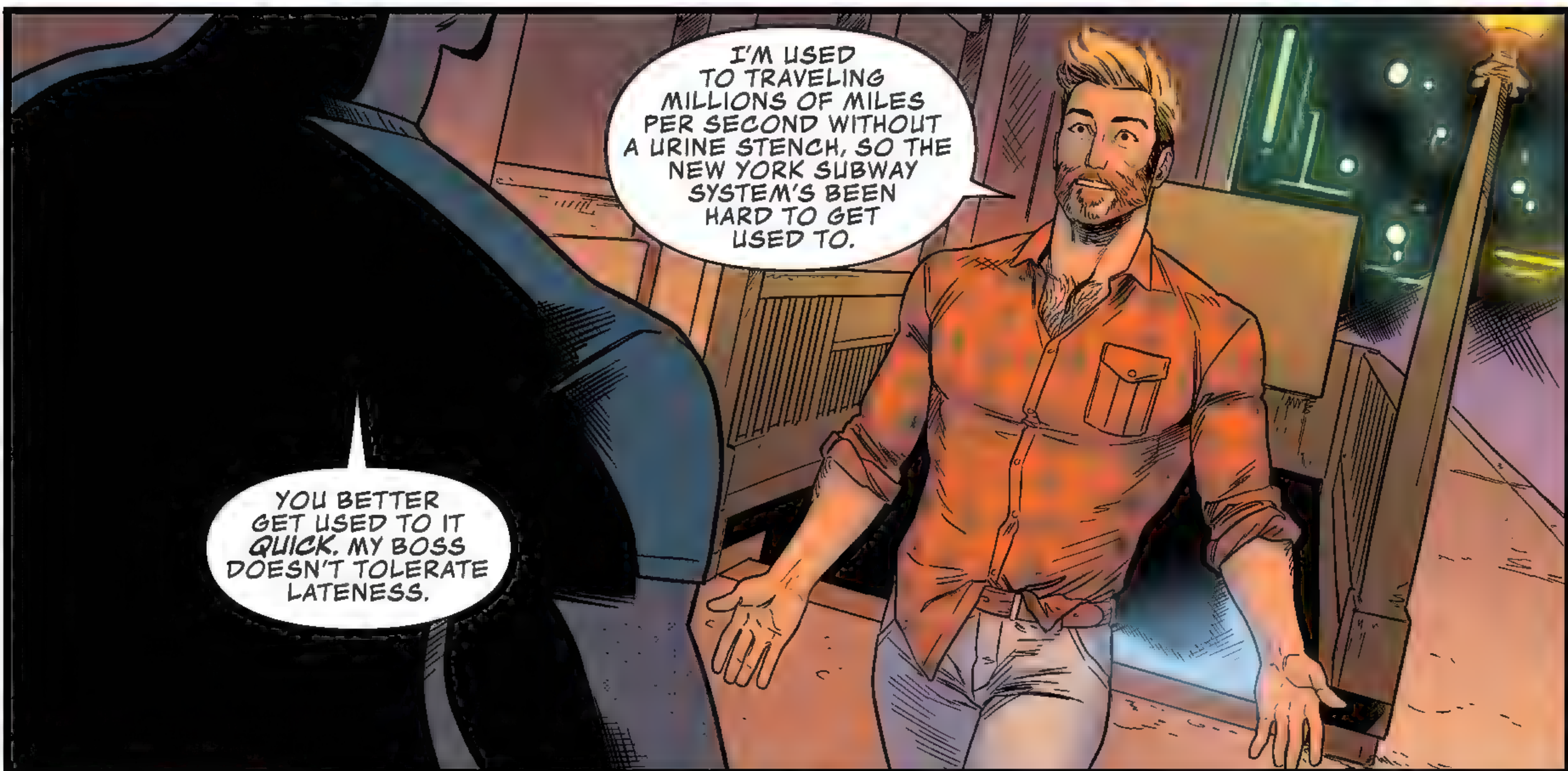
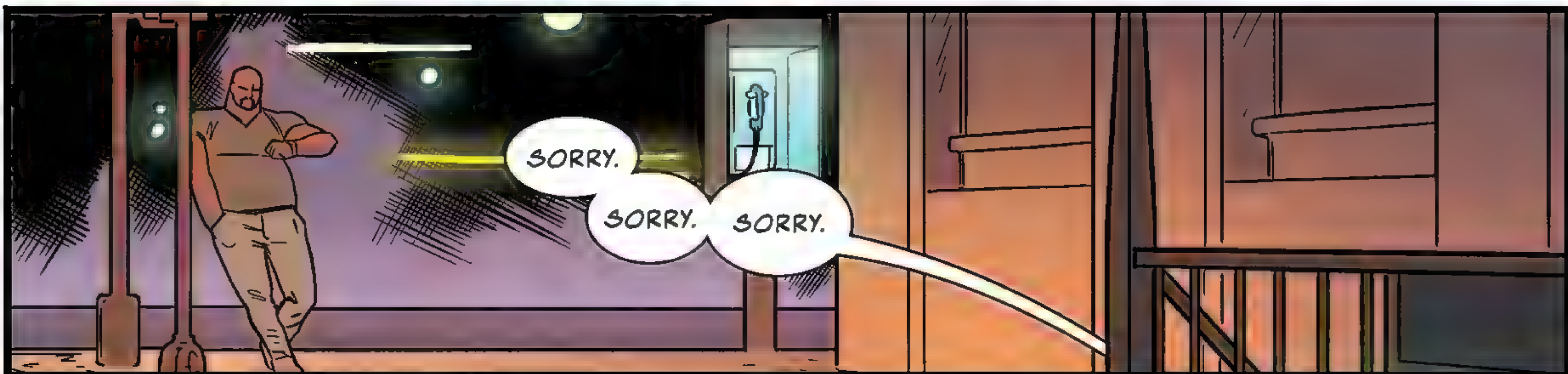
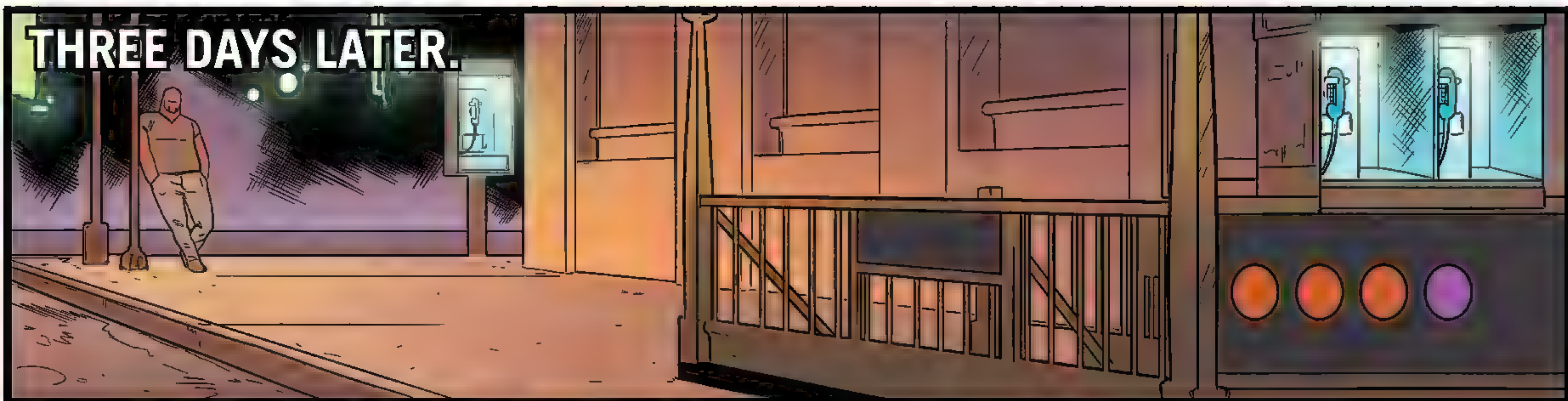
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M HEARING...



WELL, BELIEVE IT. YOU THINK YOU CAN FORCE ME TO DO THINGS? WELL, TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME. SO...



...DEAL?







...TRY
NOT TO GET
KILLED.

NEXT: CHEERS!

STAR-LORD

NEXT

ISSUE
NUMBER 3



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY? SEND LETTERS TO
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM AND MARK THEM, "OKAY TO PRINT"!

